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Oceans and the law of the sea: oceans and the law of the sea

Note verbale dated 14 March 2013 from the Permanent Mission of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General, and has the honour to transmit herewith a letter from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia dated 2 March 2013 addressed to the Secretary-General (see annex).

The letter was issued in response to the letter dated 14 August 2012 from the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/67/762, annex I) regarding the baselines of marine areas of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the Red Sea, the Gulf of Aqaba and the Arabian Gulf.

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia requests that the present note and its annex be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 75 (a). The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia also requests that the document be published in the next edition of the Law of the Sea Bulletin, in accordance to the regulations of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea.

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Annex to the note verbale dated 14 March 2013 from the Permanent Mission of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and would like to refer to note No. 692 dated 14 August 2012, that was addressed to him by the Islamic Republic of Iran, concerning the maritime baselines of Saudi Arabia in the Red Sea, the Gulf of Aqaba and the Arabian Gulf which were deposited with the United Nations on 4 Rabi' II A.H. 1431 (25 March A.D. 2010) and referred to in its earlier note, No. 1596, dated 22 December 2010.

The Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia emphasizes that the maritime baselines of Saudi Arabia in the Red Sea, the Gulf of Aqaba and the Arabian Gulf, which were determined by Saudi Council of Ministers decision No. 15 dated 25 Muharram A.H. 1431 (11 January A.D. 2010), and ratified by Royal Decree No. M/4 dated 26 Muharram A.H. 1431 (12 January A.D. 2010), are fully consistent with the rules of international law and State practice.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia takes this opportunity to convey to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.